Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department 49

Supervisor's Report on Use of Force

Incident Information

URN: 911-08323-0621-058		Date: 6/9/11	Time: 1420
Location: [redacted] Arroyo Park Drive		City or Station: SANTA CLARITA	
Bureau/Station/Facility: F.O.R. 1 / SCT		Admin. Investigation: YES [ ] NO [X]	
Type of Force: Significant - Personal Weapons			
Deputy Injury: YES [X] NO [ ]	Suspect Injury YES [X] NO [ ]		
[ ] Call	[ ] Observation	[X] Detail	[X] Foot Pursuit [ ] Vehicle Pursuit
IAB Notified: YES [X] NO [ ]	Person Notified: Lt. Stephen Vaughan	Emp: [redacted]	IAB Roll Out: YES [ ] NO [X]

Involved Employee

E1

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
[redacted]	Casaus	Steven	J.

Sex	Race	Unit of Assignment	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.)
[X] Male [ ] Female	W	Santa Clarita Station	J-Team

Shift		Age	Height	Weight
[ ] EM [X] Day [ ] PM	[X] Regular Shift [ ] OT Shift [ ] Off Duty	[redacted]	508	178
[ ] Injured [ ] Treated [ ] Admitted	Hospital:		Coroner Case #	Directed Force [ ] Significant Force [X]

E2

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
[redacted]	Dorman	Adam	L.

Sex	Race	Unit of Assignment	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.)
[X] Male [ ] Female	W	Santa Clarita Station	COBRA Team

Shift		Age	Height	Weight
[ ] EM [X] Day [ ] PM	[X] Regular Shift [ ] OT Shift [ ] Off Duty	[redacted]	601	205
[X] Injured [X] Treated [ ] Admitted	Hospital:		Coroner Case #	Directed Force [ ] Significant Force [X]

E3

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
[redacted]	Finn	Daniel	G.

Sex	Race	Unit of Assignment	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.)
[X] Male [ ] Female	W	Santa Clarita Station	COBRA Team

Shift		Age	Height	Weight
[ ] EM [X] Day [ ] PM	[X] Regular Shift [ ] OT Shift [ ] Off Duty	[redacted]	510	190
[X] Injured [X] Treated [ ] Admitted	Hospital:		Coroner Case #	Directed Force [ ] Significant Force [X]

[ ] **Additional Involved Employees**

On Duty Supervisor

Emp. #	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Rank	Present	Witness to Incident
[redacted]	ANDERSON	JAMES	R.	SGT.	YES [X] NO [ ]	YES [ ] NO [X]
[redacted]	CASAUS	STEVEN	J.	SGT.	YES [X] NO [ ]	YES [X] NO [ ]

Watch Sergeant

Emp. #	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
[redacted]	MILLER	GARY	J.

Watch Commander

Emp. #	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
[redacted]	LOW	STEPHEN	B.

STEPHEN LOW, LIEUTENANT — Watch Commander (**Print Name**) | Watch Commander's **Signature**: | Emp #: [redacted] | Date 9/1/11

JAMES ANDERSON / SERGEANT — Supervisor Completing Form: (**Print Name**) | Emp #: [redacted] | SGT. JAMES ANDERSON — Copy Provided to Employee by: | Emp #: [redacted]

PAUL BECKER / CAPTAIN — Unit Commander (**Print Name**) | Unit Commander's **Signature**: | Emp #: [redacted] | Date 9-6-11

DISCOVERY Use Only

FO# 2305818

1-CD

A/Comm 1-10-12

Original: Discovery Unit
Copy: Unit Commander

SH-R-438P (Rev. 07/08)

Supervisor's Report on Use of Force
SUSPECT INFORMATION
911-08323-0621-058

Suspect Information

S 1

Last Name	SORENSON	First Name	KYLE	Middle Name	WILLIAM
AKA Last Name		First Name		Middle Name	

Sex: ☒ Male ☐ Female | Race: W | Street Address: [redacted] | City: [redacted] | State & Zip Code: [redacted]

Work Phone: [redacted] | Home Phone: [redacted] | Age: 26 | Height: 511 | D.O.B. 06-05-85 | Weight: 200 | Armed? ☐

Booking #: 2769-526 | Primary Charge Code: 459 P.C. | Secondary Charge Code: 11377 HS | Criminal History [redacted]

EMT in attendance? ☐ YES ☒ NO Name: ____ Unit: ____ Phone #: ____

Hospital Admission? ☒ Rec'd Treatment At: HENRY MAYO NEWHALL MEMORIAL HOSP. Coroner Case #: ____ Mental History ☐

By Doctor: TRACY LAWRENCE Address: 23845 McBEAN PARKWAY, VALENCIA Phone #: 661-253-8000

Under Influence: ☐ YES ☒ NO Substance: ____ Mental Illness ☐

Suspect Interview

Date: 06-09-11 | Time: 1654 | ☐ Audiotape: ☒ Videotape: ☒ Photos of Injuries: ☒ ADMITS HEARING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Suspect Information

S__

Last Name		First Name		Middle Name	
AKA Last Name		First Name		Middle Name	

Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female | Race: | Street Address: | City: | State & Zip Code:

Work Phone: | Home Phone: | Age: | Height: | D.O.B. | Weight: | Armed? ☐

Booking #: | Primary Charge Code: | Secondary Charge Code: | Criminal History ☐

EMT in attendance? ☐ YES ☐ NO Name: ____ Unit: ____ Phone #: ____

Hospital Admission? ☐ Rec'd Treatment At: ____ Coroner Case #: ____ Mental History ☐

By Doctor: ____ Address: ____ Phone #: ____

Under Influence: ☐ YES ☐ NO Substance: ____ Mental Illness: ☐

Suspect Interview

Date: | Time: | ☐ Audiotape: ☐ Videotape: ☐ Photos of Injuries: ☐ ADMITS HEARING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Suspect Information

S__

Last Name		First Name		Middle Name	
AKA Last Name		First Name		Middle Name	

Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female | Race: | Street Address: | City: | State & Zip Code:

Work Phone: | Home Phone: | Age: | Height: | D.O.B. | Weight: | Armed? ☐

Booking #: | Primary Charge Code: | Secondary Charge Code: | Criminal History ☐

EMT in attendance? ☐ YES ☐ NO Name: ____ Unit: ____ Phone #: ____

Hospital Admission? ☐ Rec'd Treatment At: ____ Coroner Case #: ____ Mental History ☐

By Doctor: ____ Address: ____ Phone #: ____

Under Influence: ☐ YES ☐ NO Substance: ____ Mental Illness ☐

Suspect Interview

Date: | Time: | ☐ Audiotape: ☐ Videotape: ☐ Photos of Injuries: ☐ ADMITS HEARING ANNOUNCEMENTS

☐ **Additional Suspects Involved**

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Method

(AW) Arwen
(BC) Baton: (Control)
(BI) Baton: (Impact)
(BF) Bodily Fluids
(CN) Canine
(CR) Carotid Restraint
(CH) Choke Hold
(CT) Control Holds: (Control Techniques)
(TT) Control Holds: (Team Takedown)
(TD) Control Holds: (Takedown)
(CE) Chemical
(OC) Chemical Agents (OC Spray)
(TG) Chemical Agents (Tear Gas)
(EX) Explosives
(FH) Firearm (Handgun)
(FR) Firearm (Rifle)
(FS) Firearm (Shotgun)
(FO) Firearm (Other)
(FB) Flashbang
(FL) Flashlight
(OE) Other Weapon: Edged
(OV) Other Weapon: Vehicle
(OB) Other Weapon: Blunt Object
(OO) Other Weapon: Other
(PK) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Kick)
(PS) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Sweep)
(PH) Personal Weapon (Hand/Arm)
(PP) Personal Weapon (Push)
(PO) Personal Weapon (Other)
(RS) Resistance
(CN) Restraint Device (Capture Net)
(RH) Restraint Device (Handcuffs)
(HB) Restraint Device: Hobble (Legs Only)
(TP) Restraint Device: Hobble (TARP)
(RE) Restraint Device: REACT Belt
(SP) Sap
(SH) Shield
(SG) 37mm Stinger
(SB) Sting Ball
(ST) Stun Bag
(TR) Taser
(UC) Uncooperative

Type of Injury

(AB) Abrasion
(BR) Bruise
(BU) Burn
(CP) Complaint of Pain
(CO) Concussion
(DH) Death
(DI) Dislocation
(DB) Dog Bite
(FR) Fractures
(GS) Gunshot
(HB) Human Bite
(LC) Lacerations
(ND) Nerve Damage
(OD) Organ Damage
(PA) Paralysis
(PW) Puncture Wound
(SD) Soft Tissue Damage
(ST) Sprain/Twists
(UN) Unconscious
(RM) Refused Med Treatment
(NN) NONE

Body Part Injured

(AD) Abdomen
(AK) Ankle
(AR) Arm
(BK) Back
(BT) Buttocks
(CH) Chest
(EL) Elbow
(FA) Face
(FE) Feet
(FI) Fingers
(GE) Genitals
(GR) Groin
(HD) Hands
(HE) Head
(HI) Hip
(IN) Internal
(KN) Knees
(LE) Leg
(NK) Neck
(NO) Nose
(SH) Shoulder
(WR) Wrist

FORCE USED BY		FORCE USED AGAINST		Method (Code)	Type of Injury (Code)	Body Part (Code)
Name	E# or S#	Name	E# or S#			
Kyle Sorenson	S#1	Adam Dorman	E#2	UC/RS	NN	
Adam Dorman	E#2	Kyle Sorenson	S#1	PH	FR	FA
Kyle Sorenson	S#1	Adam Dorman	E#2	RS	NN	
Kyle Sorenson	S#1	Daniel Finn	E#3	RS	NN	
Daniel Finn	E#3	Kyle Sorenson	S#1	PH	NN	
Steve Casaus	E#1	Kyle Sorenson	S#1	PH	NN	
Kyle Sorenson	S#1	Steve Casaus	E#1	RS	NN	
Kyle Sorenson	S#1	Adam Dorman	E#2	RS	NN	
Kyle Sorenson	S#1	Daniel Finn	E#3	RS	NN	
Adam Dorman	E#2	Kyle Sorenson	S#1	PO	FR	AD
Adam Dorman	E#2	Kyle Sorenson	S#1	CT	NN	
Daniel Finn	E#3	Kyle Sorenson	S#1	CT	NN	

Force Applied

SIGNIFICANT – USE OF PERSONAL WEAPONS AND RESISTED HANDCUFFING

Incident Details

Santa Clarita Valley Detectives served a Search Warrant at [redacted] Arroyo Parkway [redacted] Valencia. After the detectives gave knock and notice, the parties inside started to move around. Containment personnel saw two suspects trying to jump from the rear second floor balcony. When the suspects were ordered to "stop", they climbed back into the location. Suspect Sorenson climbed onto the roof, ran across the roof line, and jumped onto the patio of apartment [redacted] He then broke into the sliding patio door of the apartment. Containment deputies saw the garage door opening of apartment [redacted] and the female resident came running outside announcing a man had broken into her home and was in her bedroom.

Deputy R. Yost was holding a position of containment and observed Suspect Sorenson run from the location. She advised other units, via her radio, that a suspect was running from the location. Based upon Deputy Yost's broadcast, Sgt. Casaus responded and located the suspect. When Suspect Sorenson ignored his orders to stop, Sgt. Casaus began to chase him. As he fled, Suspect Sorenson ran to a walkway gate at full speed and grabbed for the handle. It appeared he believed the gate would open as he ran into the locked gate. He hit the gate with his face and fell to the ground. He collected himself, jumped over the gate, and continued running. Sgt. Casaus lost sight of the suspect after the man jumped over the gate.

Suspect Sorenson continued to run and jumped into the neighboring complex. Detective Dorman, who was holding a containment position inside of the complex, observed the running suspect and gave chase. There was approximately 50 yards between the suspect and Detective Dorman. Detective Dorman followed Suspect Sorenson as he ran toward McBean Parkway, where the containment personnel were arriving. Suspect Sorenson jumped the wall back onto the roadway and immediately jumped back into the complex, as arriving personnel blocked his avenues of escape. After jumping the wall back into the complex, Suspect Sorenson landed only five to seven feet in front of Detective Dorman. Detective Dorman ordered Suspect Sorenson to get on the ground. Ignoring Detective Dorman's repeated orders, Suspect Sorenson started to rapidly move directly toward Detective Dorman. Believing he was about to be attacked, Detective Dorman delivered two punches to the suspect's face. Suspect Sorenson staggered back against the wall and then moved forward again. Detective Dorman then struck Suspect Sorenson with a palm strike to the face. Detective Dorman continued to order the suspect to get on the ground. Suspect Sorenson moved forward again and Detective Dorman delivered a second palm strike to the man's face. Suspect Sorenson started to buckle and fall to the ground. Sgt. Casaus and Detective Finn could hear Detective Dorman ordering the suspect to the ground as they climbed over the wall and approached Detective Dorman's position.

The suspect fell into a push up position. He then moved from a push up position to be face down on the ground pulling his arms toward his waistband. Detective Finn was trying to gain control of the suspect's hands and used his closed fist to stun the suspect. Detective Finn hit the suspect several times on the head and upper torso. Suspect Sorenson had locked his hands under his body. Sgt. Casaus arrived and saw Suspect Sorenson on the ground with Detective Finn and Detective Dorman engaged in a fight. Suspect Sorenson was still trying to struggle while

on the ground. Sgt. Casaus then struck the suspect on the left cheek with his fist. Sgt. Casaus saw Suspect Sorenson was trying to get up off the ground. He again struck the suspect's left cheek with his fist. At the same time, Detective Dorman kneed the suspect in the right side in an effort to get the man to release control of his arms. Additional deputies started to arrive and Sgt. Casaus requested a taser. Suspect Sorenson then screamed "Ok!". Suspect Sorenson then gave up his hands for handcuffing.

LA County Fire paramedics responded and attended to Suspect Sorenson's injuries. Sorenson was transported to Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital by AMR Ambulance and was seen by Dr. Tracy Lawrence. Mr. Sorenson was admitted for observation; he received a broken right orbit and a broken left rib. After six days he was stabilized and transferred to LCMC.

Reported Use of Force by Involved Employee(s)

All force used by Sgt. Casaus, Detective Dorman and Detective Finn was documented in individual supplemental reports. The reports are consistent with the injuries sustained by Suspect Sorenson. Detectives Dorman and Finn reported their use of force to Sgt. Casaus and Sgt. Casaus reported his force to Lt. S. Low.

Witness Interview(s)

Because of the wall between Suspect Sorenson and containment deputies, there were no witnesses.

Suspect Interview(s)

Suspect Interview(s) Conducted by: ☒ **Watch Commander** ☐ **Supervising Sergeant**

At approximately 1500 hours, Lieutenant S. Low conducted a videotaped interview of Suspect Sorenson at Henry Mayo Hospital. Suspect Sorenson was lying on his side and was very hard to understand. Suspect Sorenson stated he hurt from his head, his arm, and his back. He told Lt. Low he had a pre-existing back condition. When Lt. Low asked him why he ran from the deputies he would not answer. He said he did not fight the deputies. He went on to say he did not comply, "not right away". Suspect Sorenson told Lt. Low he was on [redacted]

On June 14, 2011, Suspect Sorenson was released from Henry Mayo Hospital and brought back to Santa Clarita Sheriff's Station. I interviewed him at the booking cell. I showed Suspect Sorenson his [redacted] With his many [redacted] I asked him why he always fought with deputies. He told me he just "hated" us. He said he will always run.

Medical Review

Suspect Sorenson was treated at the location by paramedics from LA County Fire. He was transported by AMR Ambulance to Henry Mayo Hospital where he was treated for a fractured right orbit and a fractured left rib. Doctor Lawrence examined Suspect Sorenson and found his injuries

consistent with being struck in the face with a fist and palm strikes. He was uncertain if these injuries could have been exacerbated by running into a metal gate.

Training & Tactical Review

☒ **Debriefing held to discuss training and tactical issues.**

I debriefed this incident with Sgt. Casaus and Detectives Dorman and Finn. Per the "Situational Use of Force Options Chart", I determined the Sergeant and Detectives were justified in their use of force. We discussed the use of palm strikes verses punches when encountering assaultive suspects resisting arrest. The possible utilization of less lethal options in this incident was also addressed during the debriefing. I believe the "Significant" force used in this incident was objectively reasonable, within Department Policy, and properly reported.

Watch Commander's Review

The deputies involved in the incident applied the minimal amount of force necessary to overcome S/Sorenson's uncooperative, and resistive behavior. I believe all force used fell well within the Department guidelines for the application of force and personnel acted responsibly and within all policies and procedures set forth by the Department. Lt. Vaughn, IAB, was immediately notified along with the IAB Mandatory Notification Form being completed. He elected not to respond. I am satisfied the deputies used reasonable and justifiable force, and only that force necessary to apprehend a fleeing residential burglary suspect. I recommend no further action.

Case Status

S/Sorenson pled no contest to two counts of 69 P.C. He was sentenced to 180 days in jail and 3 years probation.